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are wound in a long helix round the swim-bladder. The determination of the structure of the jaws and their functions in the peculiar genus *Exoglossum* was first made in Professor Cope's paper on the Cyprinidæ of Pennsylvania, published in 1861. Professor Cope thinks that additional species will be found in the Ohio tributaries, which now includes half the fresh water fish fauna of the State. The eastern limit of distribution of a number of species is pointed out, and the southern limit of others.

The report contains a great many typographical errors. This is too common in the documents published at our State capitals, and suggests a greater interest in the emoluments of their office than the quality of the work done by the State printers. We know of a case in an adjoining State, where the official whose report was thus mangled, reprinted part of it at his own expense, rather than present the work to the public eye. We were of the opinion at the time that the expense should have been borne by the State printer.

We hope the commissioners will persevere in their work until all our fresh waters furnish a permanent supply of good fish food for our rapidly increasing population.

STUDIES FROM THE BIOLOGICAL LABORATORY OF JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY.<sup>1</sup>—While this part contains valuable physiological papers by the editor, Prof. Martin, and by Drs. Councilman, Hartwell, and Sewall, we propose to notice here the purely zoölogical memoirs, which are of a high order of merit. In Dr. S. F. Clarke's paper on the early development of the Wolffian body in the common salamander (*Amblystoma punctatum*), which is illustrated by three well drawn plates, the author states that this body arises from the outer layer of the mesoderm as a solid rod of cells, and is at first largest anteriorly; a split then occurs in the larger portion which begins at the posterior end of the smaller part and travels anteriorly, and at this time a lumen has appeared in the anterior end of the blastema; finally, the split reaches the anterior end thus dividing that portion into two ducts; the lumen is extending itself backward, a small rod of cells has been formed below the anterior end of the ventral duct, the dorsal and ventral ducts are united at one point, and a second opening into the body-cavity from the dorsal duct has been made. This method of development seems to be quite different from that in any allied forms in which the development has been worked out, and, adds Dr. Clarke, it is most like that of the Elasmobranchs.

A paper by Dr. C. Sihler, on the formation of dentine and of osseous tissue is followed by one by Prof. W. K. Brooks and E. B. Wilson on the first zoëa of Porcellana, illustrated with two

<sup>1</sup> *Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore.* Studies from the Biological Laboratory. Editor, H. NEWELL MARTIN; Associate Editor, W. K. BROOKS. Vol. II, No. I. Published by N. Murray, Johns Hopkins University. June, 1881. 8vo, pp. 134. Subscription price for the vol., \$5.00.

plates. It is devoted to a description of the first stages of the larva, the specimens having been hatched from the eggs at Beaufort, N. C. It appears that the larva immediately after hatching is still quite rudimentary in form compared with the more active zoëa after it has cast its first larval skin, which occurs in from two to twenty-four hours after hatching. A second paper by Dr. Brooks is entitled "Alternation of periods of rest with periods of activity in the segmenting eggs of Vertebrates."

HAMLIN'S PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY OF MT. KTAADN.<sup>1</sup>—This little known and somewhat inaccessible mountain, is one of the grandest peaks in Northeastern America. Its isolation, the great height to which it rises above the surrounding country, the wild, savage desolation of its summit, the sharpness of its peak, the enormous chasm or rent in its side like the crater of a volcano, are features wanting in the White and Green mountains. Moreover it is of peculiar interest from the fact that during the glacial period its peak, like that of Mount Washington, probably stood above the ice sheets, while at an elevation of 4615 feet on its sides, occur boulders of Oriskany sandstone containing fossils, as well as of fossiliferous slates which, in some manner unexplained, have been carried from the lowlands not many miles to the north-westward, apparently not much over 600 feet above the sea. Professor Hamlin's account is full and detailed, and we are glad to know only preliminary to more thorough investigations. The excellent heliotype of a model made of the mountain, will be useful to future explorers and visitors to this wildest, most volcanic-looking of our New England peaks.

Professor Hamlin, from numerous soundings in the lakes of the Ktaadn region, shows that the lakes are shallow, with flat bottoms, enclosed by glacial detritus, as are all the lakes in Maine. Of lake basins excavated in solid rocks, he knows not an instance in Maine. It would seem from this that the lake basins of Maine, though our author does not say so, would, if drained, appear like the ancient lake bottoms which form the sites of many a New England village, and which were formed during the terrace epoch or epoch of great rivers, when the latter were chains of lakes.

The author shows that the Ktaadn region is not a continuous granite area as formerly supposed, but that like the other elevations in Central Maine, it is a mass of intrusive granite rising out of gneiss. He takes the ground, against Sterry Hunt and others, that the "gneiss" is really an eruptive granite, rather than of sedimentary origin, the transitions in many places within a

<sup>1</sup>*Observations upon the Physical Geography and Geology of Mount Ktaadn and the adjacent district.* By C. E. HAMLIN. Bulletin of the Museum of Comp. Zoology at Harvard College. Geological series, Vol. 1, No. v. Cambridge, Mass., June, 1881. 8vo, pp. 189-223, with a map and heliotype taken from a model of Mt. Ktaadn.